

## **Text/Student Teaching Nugget. Rough Draft**

Question: What are the best ways to form positive and effective relationships with your students and their families and when is the best time to begin them?

**Do not hesitate. Form relationships even before the first day:**

1. Send a letter home to the parents before school begins – Tell them about your excitement and a little bit about yourself. Give them important dates. Tell them expectations.
2. Send an EASY TO READ letter to your students – Welcome them to the New Year. Explain who you are and why you will be the best teacher they will ever have. Allow them or parents to call with any questions. Give them list of materials to bring. Tell them expectations. Inform them of all the fun they will have this year. Give them examples of some really cool activities they will participate in.
3. (This one can go either way, BUT I won't do this. Kids might find it creepy and there is a good chance of awkward conversations. My personal relationships will form on day 1).

### **Day 1:**

1. Greet them at the door with a big smile – This goes a long ways. Be friendly. Ask them about how their summer was. Talk with parents and assure them of a great year.
2. Post the classes information to make sure students are in the right place – your name, room number, grade level, and a welcome note.
3. Let the students sit where they want (firm believer in choice but make sure they understand they will lose this responsibility if there are problems)
4. Read the class information and explain who you are personally and what you did during the summer. Let them know that they will be able to share how their summer went after they listen to a few expectations and rules.
5. Begin forming long lasting, positive and effective relationships!

Key: Have fun, listen to them, and smile.